

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1390425-0

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~~SECRET~~
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
September 22, 1961

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In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

GEORGE AVAKIAN

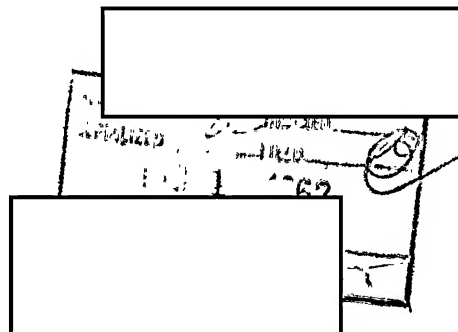
T-1, a confidential source abroad, advised on September 14, 1961, that subject was born in the Armenian section of the USSR on March 15, 1919, and currently holds United States passport number 1815945, issued at Washington, D.C., November 18, 1959.

T-1 stated subject arrived in England at London Airport from New York City on August 12, 1961, and departed London for Paris, France, on August 20. His address in London was listed as the Carlton Tower Hotel.

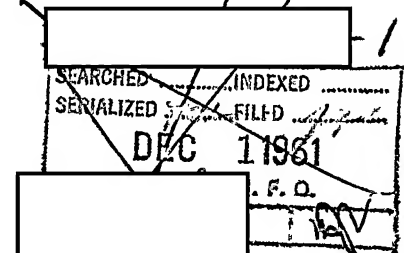
T-1 stated that a reliable and delicate source advised on August 18, 1961, that a man by the name of AVAKIAN, believed to be identical with subject, was in

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This document contains neither
recommendations nor conclusions of
the FBI. It is the property of
the FBI and is loaned to your agency;
it and its contents are not to be
distributed outside your agency.

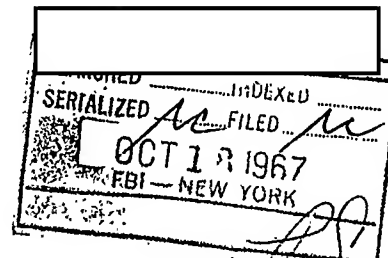


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1710/18/67 Photos & neg of George Avalon
2-10/15/71.. photos of subj (George Avalon) [initials]



FD-340 (REV. 8-17-62)

See ser #10

File No. [redacted] -1A1

Date Received 8/29/67

From Passport Office, USDS
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

Washington, D.C.
(CITY AND STATE)

By IC [redacted]
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

To Be Returned Yes ☐
No ☒

Description:

6 Photos and 1 Negative of GEORGE
AVAKIAN

gib
[Stamp: INDEXED, FILED, SEP 29 1967, NEW YORK]
gib

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 08-15-2019 BY [REDACTED]

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ADG



WILLIAM A. VARTAN
1966



10.3.5.6.7.8.9.10.11

10.3.5.6.7.8.9.10.11

back of picture

10.3.5.6.7.8.9.10.11

10.3.5.6.7.8.9.10.11

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 08-15-2019 BY

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MR. J. W. HILL
1977



MR. J. W. HILL
1977

1000 400

100

1000 Back of picture

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 08-15-2019 BY [REDACTED] ADG

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PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE
THIS SLIP FROM EXHIBIT
NY [REDACTED] 1A1

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 08-15-2019 BY [REDACTED]

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File No. NY

[REDACTED]

-1A2

Date Received

10/12/71

From

WFO.

(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(CITY AND STATE)

By

[REDACTED]

(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

To Be Returned ☐ Yes☐ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes☐ No

Description:

PHOTOS OF SGT -
GEORGE AVAKIAN.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 7 1971	
FBI-NEW YORK	

75 [REDACTED] CM

10-6-71

RE: WFO ROUTING SLIP TO NY



GEORGE AVAKIAN
3/23/71



GEORGE AVAKIAN
3/23/71

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(*hy* *1A2*)

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back of page

hy *1A2*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 08-15-2019 BY

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GEORGE AVAKIAN

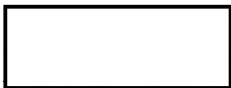
3/23/71



GEORGE AVAKIAN

3/23/71

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 08-15-2019 BY

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GEORGE AVAKIAN
3/23/71



GEORGE AVAKIAN
3/23/71

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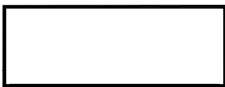


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SAC, WFO

December 1, 1961

Director, FBI [REDACTED]

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GEORGE AVAKIAN
[REDACTED]



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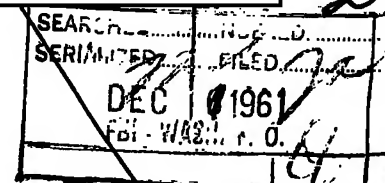
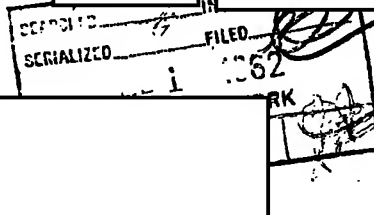
WFO should contact the Passport Office, Department of State, for available background data on subject. Thereafter WFO should assure that the office covering subject's residence contact logical sources and informants as well as review its files to obtain background data on subject and to determine whether he has engaged in activities inimical to the interests of the U.S. Investigation in this matter should be conducted in accordance with instructions contained in Manual of Instructions, Section 105 K 6.b. Results of investigation should be submitted in reports suitable for dissemination.

Two copies of this letter are being sent WFO as well as one copy of the letterhead memorandum of 9-22-61 mentioned above for the use of the office of origin.

Enclosures - 2

1 - London [REDACTED]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE WASHINGTON FIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK	DATE 1/31/62	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 12/5/61-1/22/62
TITLE OF CASE GEORGE AVAKIAN		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	TYPED BY jfh
[REDACTED]		CHARACTER OF CASE [REDACTED]	

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Bulet to WFO captioned as above and dated 12/1/61, and Letterhead memo captioned, "GEORGE AVAKIAN", and dated 8/22/61.

- RUC -

ENCLOSURES

Enclosed for the NYO are two copies of referenced Bureau letter and one copy of referenced letterhead memo.

INFORMANTIdentity of Source

WF T-1 is

[REDACTED]File Where Located[REDACTED]

APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
COPIES MADE: 5 - Bureau [REDACTED] 2 - New York (Enc 3) (RM) 1 - Washington Field [REDACTED]		[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
OPEN (9) [REDACTED] 105- SEARCHED [REDACTED] DATE 2-2-62 SERIALIZED [REDACTED] SECT 33		SEARCHED [REDACTED] INDEXED [REDACTED] SERIALIZED [REDACTED] FILED [REDACTED] FEB 1 1962 FBI - NEW YORK J. E. FREANEY
DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT		NOTATIONS
AGENCY		
REQUEST RECD.		
DATE FWD.		
HOW FWD.		
BY		

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WFO [REDACTED]

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Careful consideration has been given to the source concealed, and a T symbol was utilized in the report only in those instances where the identity of the source must be concealed.

LEAD

NEW YORK OFFICE

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Conduct appropriate investigation as set forth in enclosed Bulet to WFO dated 12/1/61.

CLASSIFICATION

This report is classified, "~~Secret~~", as it contains information from [REDACTED]

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- B* -
COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION~~SECRET~~

Copy to:

Report of: [REDACTED]

Office: Washington, D.C.

Date: 1/31/62

Field Office File No.: [REDACTED]

Bureau File No.: [REDACTED]

Title:

GEORGE AVAKIAN

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Character: [REDACTED]

Synopsis:

WF T-1 advised that on 8/18/61, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]b3
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- RUC -

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

WF T-1, a confidential source abroad, advised on September 14, 1961, that subject was born in the Armenian section of the USSR on March 15, 1919, and currently holds United States passport number 1813945, issued at Washington, D.C., November 18, 1959.

WF T-1 stated subject arrived in England at London Airport from New York City on August 12, 1961, and departed London for Paris, France, on August 20, 1961. His address in London was listed as the Carlton Tower Hotel.

WF T-1 stated that a reliable and delicate source advised on August 18, 1961, that a man by the name of AVAKIAN, believed to be identical with subject, was in [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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WFO [redacted]

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[redacted]

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[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
On January 22, 1962, [redacted]
[redacted]

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In a passport application dated November 17, 1959, at New York City, subject set forth that he desired a passport for travel to France, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Russia and England, for a period of three weeks for the stated purpose of engaging in tourist travel. He indicated he planned to depart from New York City via air travel on December 10, 1959.

The application reflected he was issued passport number 1813945 on November 18, 1959, which restricted travel to Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary and those portions of China, Korea and Viet-Nam under communist control.

Subject set forth that he was ^{born} on March 15, 1919, in Russia, and that he immigrated to the United States in August, 1923. He alleged American citizenship which he stated he derived through his parents. He listed his father as MESROP AVAKIAN, who was born on November 26, 1887, in Iran, and resides at 186 Riverside Drive, New York City. He listed his mother as MANOUSH AVEDISIAN AVAKIAN, who was born on November 23, 1894, in Russia, and resides at 186 Riverside Drive, New York City. He stated that his father is a United States citizen and that his mother is not a United States citizen.

Subject listed his permanent address as 285 Central Park West, New York, New York. He stated he was last married on May 22, 1948, to ANAHID AJEMIAN AVAKIAN, who was born on January 26, 1924, at Brooklyn, New York. Subject is described in the application as five feet, ten inches tall, with brown hair and brown eyes.

WFO [REDACTED]

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The file reflects that the subject was issued passport number 49327 on November 22, 1955, for the stated purpose of traveling to Holland, France, England, Italy, Germany and Sweden, in connection with his business as an executive for Columbia Records.

The file indicated subject was issued passport number 141649 on September 19, 1949, for the stated purpose of taking a five week's pleasure trip to England, Belgium, France and Switzerland. The file reflected that this passport was renewed on September 13, 1951, for a two and one-half month's pleasure trip to France, Germany, Sweden, Italy, Holland, Belgium, England and Austria. The subject stated in connection with the acquisition of the renewal of this passport that his wife planned to be conducting concerts in many European countries and he desired to travel with her.

[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] SA CHARLES A. MAY [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

WFO

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The file indicated that the subject, as Director of Artists and Repertoire for Warner Brothers Records, 666 Fifth Avenue, New York City, New York, appeared at the

made to United States Senator KENNETH B. KEATING in a letter dated March 15, 1960. Subject furnished a copy of this letter which read as follows:

"I am writing at the suggestion of friends to ask your aid in bringing about an event which can dramatize in a unique fashion the present relationship between the United States and Russia, and its historical foundation in the fairly recent past. For full impact, it should be brought to pass at the time that President EISENHOWER is in Moscow in June.

"It is very simple, and at first it might not seem to have the power to get front-page publicity for the idea of present-day cooperation based on the past, but for reason which will become apparent it is full of timely overtones that can bring it into an exciting focus.

"The idea is simply to arrange a performance in Moscow of the most outstanding piano concerts of this century, with its Russian composer as the conductor, and the American pianist who first introduced it in this country, as the soloist. One of the extra 'kickers' to this idea which dramatizes international amity is both of them are of Armenian descent, and speak a common language fluently although one doesn't speak English and the other doesn't speak Russian. Another is that the American premiere of the work came about through a concert for Russia War Relief, at a time when the countries were drawn together by a common interest in war. Today they are drawn together by a common interest in peace.

"The composer is ARAM KHATCHATURIAN, and the pianist is MARO AJEMIAN, who was a teenage student at the Juilliard School of Music when she was asked to perform a Russian concerto at a 1942 benefit concert. Rather than do TCHAIKOVSKY or RACHMANINOFF, she sought by a contemporary Russian, and discovered KHATCHATURIAN and his now famous concerto in that way. Miss AJEMIAN went on to graduate from Juilliard and today is perhaps the most outstanding woman pianist in this country, with honors for her continued pioneering work in presenting new music.

WFO

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"Press people I have spoken to believe that this idea could easily be built into a major news story, particularly if the bringing together of Mr. KHATCHATURIAN and Miss AJEMIAN on the Moscow concert stage took place during Mr. EISENHOWER's visit. They feel that it would symbolize even more than the person of Mr. EISENHOWER himself (because the musicians are not politicians) the closing of the circle of closeness between the ordinary citizens of the two countries, in 1942 in war and in 1960 in peace. There is no other combination of individuals from the two countries which, they feel, can symbolize this so humanly and dramatically.

"I spoke to Mr. KHATCHATURIAN about this in Philadelphia on Sunday, and he expressed a keen desire to put this idea into execution, but explained that the Russian system is such that he cannot do it on his own, but only on order of the Ministry of Culture. He told me that the proper procedure would be for the American Government to express a desire to the Minister of Culture in Moscow for such a concert appearance to take place, and that the Ministry would then set it up.

"There are two other reasons that this idea interests me, but I do not want you to feel that it is being presented with any selfish motives; at the same time, you should know that I am related to Miss AJEMIAN by marriage; and that I am the Director of Artists and Repertoire for Warner Brothers Records, and that my company is keenly interested in recording the performance. I am sure you realize that the merit of this idea is not lessened by these facts, but I do not want to be in the position of not stating them to you immediately.

"There is much more detail which you should know about the background of this idea and both participants, and I can come to Washington on short notice to discuss it with you or anyone else.

"I can be reached by phone at CI 6-1000 (office address: Warner Bros Records, 666 Fifth Avenue, New York) or at home at SU 7-7778.

WFO []

~~SECRET~~

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"It is my firm belief that the foundation on which this idea rests makes it uniquely valuable to our government and to Mr. EISENHOWER's international policy in terms of bringing it to the people of the world in appealing, human terms."

The April, 1961, "Congressional Directory" of the 87th Congress, First Session, lists KENNETH B. KEATING as a United States Senator from the state of New York.

The file contained a Memorandum of Conversation dated June 27, 1961, which reflects that subject appeared at the USDS on June 27, 1961, and renewed his proposal to have pianist Miss MARO AJEMIAN appear in the Soviet Union preferably with composer ARAM KHATCHATURIAN. Subject stated that the Soviet composer planned to come to the United States during the latter part of 1961, and that he would like to have Miss AJEMIAN appear with him in the Soviet Union prior to his departure for the United States. The Memorandum indicated that it was subject's belief that if AJEMIAN and KHATCHATURIAN would perform in the Soviet Union before coming to the United States, it would build up interest in the American tour and provide good publicity. Subject was advised that this matter would be brought up in connection with negotiations regarding a new exchange agreement later during 1961.

The Memorandum set forth that subject stated he had recently met the Soviet Ambassador in Canada, who is of Armenian descent, and that the Ambassador was very interested in his proposal concerning AJEMIAN. Subject indicated he would contact the Minister of Culture in Armenia in an effort to advance the proposal.

The file contained a communication from [] dated August 15, 1951, regarding the subject, "European Tour of MARO and ANAHID AJEMIAN". The communication set forth that MARO and ANAHID AJEMIAN, sister concert artists of New York City, pianist and violinist, respectively, planned a concert tour in Europe during the Fall of 1951.

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DIRECTOR, FBI [redacted]

3/9/62

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SAC, NEW YORK [redacted] .C.

GEORGE AVAKIAN
[redacted]

ReBulet 12/1/61 and WFO report 1/31/62.

A pretext call to Warner Brother Records, 666 5th Avenue, NYC, revealed that GEORGE AVAKIAN is now Director of Artists and Repertoire for Radio Corporation of American (RCA) at 155 East 24th Street, NYC.

A check of the records of the NY State Motor Vehicle Bureau reflect a 1961 registration by GEORGE AVAKIAN of a 1954 Ford sedan, license number 4D4672. He resides at 285 Central Park West, NYC and is employed by RCA Victor Records at 125 East 24th Street, NYC. He is described as 173 pounds, 5' 10", brown eyes and brown hair.

From the information set forth in WFO report, subject appears to be in the category of 105K62F as an individual doing legitimate business or attempting to do business with Communist countries. It is evident from the information obtained that AVAKIAN has been, through the State Department, attempting to arrange a concert of ARAM KHATCHATURIAN's compositions performed by his relative, NARO AJEMIAN. This contact, aside from his effort to assist his relative, is in accordance with his position as Director of Artists and Repertoire with Warner Brothers and RCA.

In consideration of 105K65b, subject, from his background, interests and employment, does not appear to be a good Deseco prospect.

This case is being closed.

- 2 - Bureau [redacted] (RM)
- 1 - Washington Field [redacted] (RM)
- 1 - New York [redacted]

JEF:dbw
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Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

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Chief Clerk:
Close Case on this 3/9/62
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SEARCHED INDEXED
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17 3 1967

[Redacted Box]

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Routing Slip
0-7 (Rev. 7-1-66)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 08-15-2019 BY [redacted] ADG

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TO: SAC,

<input type="checkbox"/> Albany	<input type="checkbox"/> Houston	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New York City	<input type="checkbox"/> Tampa
<input type="checkbox"/> Albuquerque	<input type="checkbox"/> Indianapolis	<input type="checkbox"/> Norfolk	<input type="checkbox"/> Washington Field
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<input type="checkbox"/> Birmingham	<input type="checkbox"/> Knoxville	<input type="checkbox"/> Phoenix	<input type="checkbox"/> Bern
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<input type="checkbox"/> Denver	<input type="checkbox"/> Newark	<input type="checkbox"/> Savannah	<input type="checkbox"/> Rio de Janeiro
<input type="checkbox"/> Detroit	<input type="checkbox"/> New Haven	<input type="checkbox"/> Seattle	<input type="checkbox"/> Santo Domingo
<input type="checkbox"/> El Paso	<input type="checkbox"/> New Orleans	<input type="checkbox"/> Springfield	<input type="checkbox"/> Tokyo
<input type="checkbox"/> Honolulu			

Date 8/2/67

RE: **GEORGE AVAKIAN**

☐ For information ☐ Retention optional ☒ For appropriate action ☐ Surep, by _____

☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.

☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____

Remarks: Handle per [redacted] MOI.

OPEN (OR REOPEN) CASE
ORIGIN NY
SUPV [signature]
DATE 8/4
SECT 33

Enc. [redacted]
Bufile [redacted]
Urfile [redacted]

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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Memorandum

TO : SAC, New York [redacted]

DATE: 8/31/67

FROM : SA

SUBJECT: George Avakian

On 8/10/67 an attempt was made with negative results to locate the subject's personnel records at his former employment Warner Brothers Records 666 5th Avenue NYC. [redacted] b6 b7C advised that it would take about 2 weeks to locate the subject's Personnel File since it was now in their warehouse. After consultation with Supervisor [redacted] [redacted] it was determined that since the subject was employed by RCA, 155 East 24th Street, NYC after leaving Warner Brothers it would not be necessary to return to Warner Brothers ~~to~~ review their records since the information desired could be obtained from reviewing the record of his most recent employer.

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On 8/10/67 and 8/14/67 attempts were made with negative results to review the subject's personnel record at RCA, 151 East 24th Street NYC. [redacted] stated that [redacted]

who would be the individual who would obtain the subject's personal file would be available on 8/14/67 or 8/16/67.

$0 \sim 8/10/67$

CHIEF CLERK:
POST #331 8/31

INDEXED
FILED
AUG 3 1967
FBI - NEW YORK



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that his records revealed the subject
DOB: 3/15/19, POB: Russia, was employed
as a Creator of Phonograph Records from
1960 - 8/14/62 at which time he
resigned. The subject terminated his
employment so that he could become a
free-lance worker in the phonograph field.
His records do not indicate where the
subject is currently employed nor his
present home address. The subject was a
member of the United States Army from
1937 - 1941 and he was assigned to the
Special Training Program ^{JPS} from 1940 at
Harvard University in European History and
Language, 1943 - 1944 and 1943 - 2/6/46. He
said he had no additional information to
offer concerning the subject.

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On 8/15/67 SA [redacted] [redacted]
reviewed the records of the Credit Bureau of
Greater New York and ascertained that
George Arakian, wife Anahid, residence
285 Central Park West, former residence
415 Central Park West NYC was
self-employed and engaged in the
phonograph record production business,
200 W. 57th Street as of 4/65. There
was no derogatory information in the files

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eleven

On 8/30/67 [redacted] and [redacted]
operators, 200 West 57th Street, NYC advised
they had did not know whether there
was a record production company owned

by George Avakian located in their building. They advised that [redacted] [redacted] who may be able to offer information concerning this company would be returning from vacation 9/7/67.

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On 8/30/67 [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] 285 Central Park West, NYC advised that one George Avakian and wife live in the building. He did not know anything about them as far as how long they have lived here but that [redacted] [redacted] who maintains records who he available for interview after 9/5/67.

On 8/31/67 [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] 415 Central Park West, NYC, advised that all records of tenants living here prior to 1965 have been destroyed and therefore he could not verify whether the subject ever lived here.

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9/19/67

DIRECTOR, FBI [REDACTED]

SAC, NEW YORK [REDACTED] (P)

GEORGE AVAKIAN
[REDACTED]

(OO: NEW YORK)

ReBu routing slip to NY dated 8/2/67.

On 8/16/67, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Radio Corporation of America (RCA), 155 East 24th Street, New York City, advised that his records reveal the subject, date of birth 3/15/19, place of birth Russia, was employed as a Creator of Phonograph Records from 1960 to 8/14/62, at which time he resigned. The subject terminated his employment so that he could become a free lance worker in the phonograph field. His records do not indicate where the subject is currently employed nor his present home address. The subject was a member of the United States Army from 1937 to 1941, and he was assigned to the Special Training Program at Harvard University in European Language, 1943 to 1944, and 1943 to 2/6/46. [REDACTED] said he had no additional information to offer concerning the subject.

b6
b7C

On 8/15/67, SA [REDACTED] reviewed the records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York and ascertained that as of April 1965, GEORGE AVAKIAN, wife ANAHID, residence 285 Central Park West, former residence 415 Central Park West, New York City, was self-employed and engaged in the phonograph record production business, 200 West 57th Street, New York City. There was no derogatory information in the files.

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On 9/7/67, [REDACTED] 285 Central Park West, New York City, advised that the subject and his wife have been residing at the above address for about eight years. He said the subject owns a phonograph record

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2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - New York

SPS:amd
(3)

Searched
Serialized
Indexed
Filed
[REDACTED] 9

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NY [REDACTED]

b3
b7E

productions business at 200 West 57th Street, New York City, but he does not know the name of the company. He said his records contain no additional information.

On 9/7/67, [REDACTED] 200 West 57th Street, New York City, advised that there are over 200 offices located at the above address and that there is no company listed there by the name of AVAKIAN. He stated that unless he knew the exact name of the subject's company, he could not state which company the subject owns. He declared his records are listed only by the company's name and not the owners.

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A review of the current 1966-1967 New York City Telephone Directory which covers the five boroughs of New York City failed to list any phonograph record production companies by the name of AVAKIAN.

On 9/8/67, the records of AVAKIAN, New York City Police Department, Bureau of Criminal Identification, were caused to be reviewed by SA AUGUST J. MICEK and no information could be obtained identifiable with the subject or his wife.

The records of the Board of Elections, borough of Manhattan, were checked by IC [REDACTED] on 8/10/67, and revealed that as of 10/15/60, GEORGE AVAKIAN, date of birth 3/15/19, place of birth Russia, residence 415 Central Park West, New York City, was an executive with RCA, 155 East 24th Street, New York City. These records also show that ANANID AVAKIAN, date of birth 6/26/24, place of birth United States of America, resided at 415 Central Park West, New York City.

b6
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On 8/31/67, C. C. SAVA, Chief, Records Administration and Information Section, INS, 20 West Broadway, New York City, advised SA WILLIAM F. MARTIN that his records contain no information concerning the subject.

NY [redacted]

b3
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NYO indices failed to reflect any information identifiable with subject's family.

On 3/31/67, [redacted] advised that GEORGE AVAKIAN attempted to contact [redacted] with negative results and asks that [redacted] contact him at his office telephone number MU 4-0331 or his home telephone number SU 7-7773.

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On 4/3/67, [redacted] advised that [redacted] contacted GEORGE AVAKIAN and AVAKIAN desired to know whether [redacted] talk with [redacted] went well and when told that everything is well he said that was good news. AVAKIAN stated he contacted the Director of Young Audience, Inc. on 4/3/67, concerning presenting some of the visiting Russian musicians to their audiences and possibly even having them present a benefit program for Young Audience and that these proposals were well received. (If disseminated the information must be classified "~~Secret~~ - No Foreign Dissemination".)

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b6
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b7D

NY [redacted]

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The records of the New York City Telephone Company were checked on 9/1/67, and they revealed that GEORGE AVAKIAN, 235 Central Park West, New York City, is the subscriber to telephone number SU 7-7773. The above records were checked on 9/7/67, and indicated that Avakian Brothers, Inc., 102 Madison Avenue, New York City, is the subscriber to telephone number MU 4-0331.

On 3/16/67, [redacted] advised that Avakian Brothers, Inc., 102 Madison Avenue, New York City, deals in importing oriental rugs. MESROP AVAKIAN, who is middle-aged, is the president and GEORGE AVAKIAN, who is a cousin of the officers, is one of the directors.

b7D

On 4/21/67, [redacted] advised that GEORGE AVAKIAN (telephone number 694-0331) contacted [redacted] and advised he wanted to let [redacted] know in advance that [redacted] and his wife are invited to Lloyd's Concert on 5/4/67. AVAKIAN stated that Student's Exchange Corporation is trying to help them with the expenses of the trip but thus far have not obtained sufficient funds. AVAKIAN further stated that American corporations who are interested in Soviet-American relations may aid in paying for the expense of the trip.

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On 3/22/67, [redacted] advised that GEORGE AVAKIAN contacted the Office of Intourist and said that the Jaz Quartet had an unofficial invitation to go to Russia and perform. (If disseminated this information must be classified "~~Secret~~ - ~~No Foreign Dissemination~~").

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NY

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The following informants who are familiar with general Communist activities in the New York City area were contacted during August 1967, and could offer no information concerning the subject or his wife:

Informant

Contacting Individual

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SA JOHN F. MALLEY

SA JOHN F. MALLEY

SA JOHN F. MALLEY

SA

SA

SA

SA

SA

SA

SA

SA JOHN A. HAAG

SA ROBERT O. JOHNSON

SA ROBERT O. JOHNSON

SA ROBERT O. JOHNSON

SA ROBERT O. JOHNSON

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b7C
b7D
b7E

NY [REDACTED]

Informant

[REDACTED]

Contacting Individual

SA ROBERT O. JOHNSON

SA ROBERT O. JOHNSON

SA ROBERT O. JOHNSON

SA [REDACTED]

SA [REDACTED]

SA [REDACTED]

SA [REDACTED]

NYO will continue efforts to obtain additional background information concerning the subject and the name of his record production company. NYO will also report results of checks being made through [REDACTED]

b7E

[REDACTED] Results of such inquiries will be set forth in future communication.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 08-15-2019 BY [REDACTED] ADG

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TO : ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, NEW YORK [REDACTED] DATE: 9/25/67

FROM : SAC, WFO [REDACTED] (RUC)

SUBJECT: GEORGE AVAKIAN

[REDACTED]
(OO:NY)

Re NYform FD-302 to WFO dated 8/9/67.

Enclosed for the NY Office are 6 photos and a negative of subject obtained from the Passport Office, USDS.

On 8/29/67, IC [REDACTED] reviewed the file of GEORGE AVAKIAN at the Passport Office, USDS, and disclosed the following info since the file was last reviewed on 1/22/62: ^{which} b3
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On 11/5/63, at NY, NY, AVAKIAN renewed passport 181394⁵ which was issued to him on 11/18/59. On the renewal application, he indicated that he would depart New York by air on 11/15/63, for travel of two to three weeks to possibly Syria, Turkey, Cyprus, Egypt, Greece and Belgium. Permanent residence was shown as 28⁵ Central Park West, NYC. In event of death or accident, he requested that MESROPA AVAKIAN, his father, be notified at 186 Riverside Drive, NY, NY.

On 5/26/65, AVAKIAN was issued passport F 32482⁵ at New York, N.Y., for proposed three weeks' travel to Italy, France, Holland, Belgium, and Germany for the purpose of pleasure and business. He was to depart New York by air on 6/3/65. In event of death or accident he requested that his [REDACTED] be notified. b6
b7C

The records of the Central Office, INS, reviewed by IC [REDACTED] on 9/15/67 reveal that MESROP AVAKIAN, who was born 11/28/87 at Sal Mas, Persia emigrated to the U.S. from Constantinople on 12/7/21. He filed a Petition for Naturalization in the Southern District of N.Y., number 289⁵ 13, on 5/13/37. He listed the following [REDACTED] who resided with him: GOURGEN, born 3/15/19, Russia; [REDACTED] b3
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(2) - New York (Enc. 7) (RM)

1 - WFO

JDE:nar

(3)



5010-108


Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

10

WFO



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 N.Y. He said he had
resided in the U.S. continuously since 1/2/22.

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Certificate of Naturalization for MESROP AVAKIAN,
number 2545677, a copy of which is maintained at INS,
reflected that he was naturalized 1/9/28 before the U.S.
District Court, Southern District of N.Y. The above mentioned
children are also listed in this certificate.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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TO : SAC, NEW YORK ([REDACTED]) DATE: 10/2/67

FROM : *[Signature]* SAC, ST. LOUIS ([REDACTED]) (RUC)

SUBJECT: GEORGE AVAKIAN
[REDACTED]

Re New York FD-356, 8/14/67.

A review on 9/27/67. by IC [REDACTED]

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St. Louis, Mo., indicated one GEORGE MESROP AVAKIAN, Service Number 32 171 331, was inducted into the U. S. Army on 8/22/41. He was honorably discharged on 8/4/45, as a Master Sergeant in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater to accept appointment as Second Lieutenant in the U. S. Army, Military Intelligence. He accepted the appointment and entered on active duty on 8/5/45, under Service Number 02 030 202. He was honorably released from active duty on 2/6/46, as a Second Lieutenant at Fort MacArthur, Calif., by reason of service in excess of four years. He was on terminal leave from 1/22/46, to 2/6/46. He served in the inactive Officers Reserve Corps from 2/7/46, to 4/1/53.

The records indicated he attended the U. S. Army Specialized Training Program at Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., from 6/14/43, to 3/4/44. His curriculum was shown as Foreign Area and Language (Russian and German). He also attended the Military Intelligence Training Center at Camp Ritchie, Md., during 3/44, to 7/44, for courses in Photo Interpretation and Intelligence.

He was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, World War II Victory Medal, American Theater Service Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Theater Service Medal and the Philippine Liberation Ribbon. There is no record of disciplinary actions, nervous or mental disorders.

The following descriptive and background information is contained in the records:

Date and Place of Birth 3/15/ [REDACTED] Armavir, Russia.
Citizen [REDACTED] by father's

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2 - New York (RM)
1 - St. Louis
GTJ/ral
(3)



5010-108

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
OCT 4 1967
FBI - NEW YORK

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

SL [REDACTED]

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naturalization certificate #2545677, issued 1/9/28, by Department of Labor, New York, N. Y. The following children were named in the certificate: GOURGEN (the subject); [REDACTED]

b6
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Weight
Height
Race
Hair
Eyes
Foreign Languages

[REDACTED] The records indicated he traveled to the United States in 1923 from Russian Armenia. 165 - 173 lbs. 5'9" White Brown Brown Armenian, excellent; German, good; French, good; Russian, fair to poor A. B. Degree, Yale University, New Haven, Conn., 1941; Specializing in English Literature (Major), Math, History, Psychology (Applied) and Economics Photo Interpreter Chief Clerk, Chief Photo Interpreter and Aerial Photographic Officer Public Relations; Literary Writer, wrote short stories and articles, published in various magazines. Did all free lance writing for five years, 1936 to 1941.

Education

Military Occupations

Civilian Occupations

2/40 to 7/41, Special Employee for Columbia Recording Corp., Bridgeport, Conn. and New York, N. Y., [REDACTED] supervisor.

b6
b7C


11/40 to 3/41, Independent Investigator for ROSENBERG, GOLDMARK, & COLIN, 165 Broadway, New York, N. Y. (Legal Firm)

SL



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Civilian Occupations
(Cont'd)

1946 to 4/51, Manager,
International Department,
Artists and repertoire work,
recording director for
Columbia Records, Inc.,
799 7th Ave., New York, N. Y.,
, Executive Vice President, supervisor

b6
b7c

Lecturer, Division of General
Education, New York University,
1948 to 1951

Free Lance Writer. Written
articles for about 20 maga-
zines, mostly on musical
subjects. Also Co-Editor
of the standard reference
book on jazz records
("Hot Discography Criterion
Press, 1948").

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TO: CHIEF CLERK

Date 8/9/67

Subject George Avakian

Aliases

Address 285 Central Park West NYC Birth Date 3/15/19 Birthplace Russia Race Sex ☐ Male ☐ Female

☐ Exact Spelling ☐ Main Criminal Case Files Only ☐ Restrict to Locality of
☒ All References ☐ Criminal References Only
☐ Main Subversive Case Files Only ☐ Main Subversive (If no Main, list all Subversive References)
☐ Subversive References Only ☐ Main Criminal (If no Main, list all Criminal References)

File & Serial Number	Remarks	File & Serial Number	Remarks
[redacted]	- 1180 6/67		b3
Tele # 6811-0831			b6
			b7C
			b7E
	- 1162 6/67		
	- 1133 p2 5/67		
[redacted]	- 55 2/67		
- 24 cl.			
no mid names			
G. Avakian			
100-4558-1A2			
450 Central Ave			
NY.			
no mid names			

Rec [redacted] Squad [redacted] Extension 379

Serialized by [redacted] (date) 8/25/67

Consolidated by (date)

Reviewed by (date)

File Review Symbols

I - Identical ? - Not identifiable
NI - Not identical U - Unavailable reference

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
SEP 12 1967
FBI NEW YORK
[redacted] 1808
33

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DIRECTOR, FBI [REDACTED]

10/16/67

SAC, NEW YORK [REDACTED] (C)

CHANGED:
GEORGE AVAKIAN aka
George Mesrop Avakian,
Gourgen Avakian

[REDACTED]
(OO: NEW YORK)

Title is marked "Changed" to reflect the
additional names of GEORGE MESROP AVAKIAN and GOURGEN
AVAKIAN as ascertained through review [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b3
b7E

ReNYlet to Bureau, 9/19/67.

On 8/29/67, IC [REDACTED] reviewed
the file of GEORGE AVAKIAN at [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], which disclosed the following
information since the file was last reviewed on 1/22/62:

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On 11/5/63, at NY, NY, AVAKIAN renewed passport
1813945 which was issued to him on 11/18/59. On the renewal
application, he indicated that he would depart NY by air
on 11/15/63, for travel of two to three weeks to possibly
Syria, Turkey, Cyprus, Egypt, Greece and Belgium. Permanent
residence was shown as 285 Central Park West, NYC. In event
of death or accident, he requested that MESROPA AVAKIAN, his
father, be notified at 186 Riverside Drive, NY, NY.

On 5/26/65, AVAKIAN was issued passport F 324825
at NY, NY, for proposed three weeks travel to Italy, France,
Holland, Belgium, and Germany for the purpose of pleasure
and business. He was to depart NY by air on 6/3/65. In
event of death or accident he requested that his brother,
[REDACTED], be notified.
[REDACTED]

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2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - New York

JPS:dje
(3)

Search [REDACTED]
Serialized [REDACTED]
Indexed [REDACTED]
Filed [REDACTED]
Close this 803

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NY [redacted]

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The records of [redacted] reviewed by IC [redacted] on 9/15/67, reveal that MESROP AVAKIAN who was born 11/28/87, at Sal Mas, Persia, emigrated to the US from Constantinople on 12/7/21. He filed a Petition for Naturalization in the Southern District of NY, number 289513, on 5/13/37. He listed the following children who resided with him: GOURGEN, born 3/15/19, Russia; [redacted] [redacted] He said he had resided in the US continuously since 1/2/22.

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Certificate of Naturalization for MESROP AVAKIAN, number 2545677, [redacted] reflected that he was naturalized 1/9/28 before the US District Court, Southern District of NY. The above-mentioned children are also listed in this certificate.

b7E

A review on 9/27/67, by IC [redacted] of the Army records on file at the Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, indicated one GEORGE MESROP AVAKIAN, Service Number 32 171 331, was inducted into the US Army on 8/22/41. He was honorably discharged on 8/4/45, as a Master Sergeant in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater to accept appointment as Second Lieutenant in the US Army, Military Intelligence. He accepted the appointment and entered on active duty on 8/5/45, under Service Number 02 030 202. He was honorably released from active duty on 2/6/46, as a Second Lieutenant at Fort MacArthur, Calif., by reason of service in excess of four years. He was on terminal leave from 1/22/46, to 2/6/46. He served in the inactive Officers Reserve Corps from 2/7/46, to 4/1/53.

b6
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The records indicated he attended the US Army Specialized Training Program at Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., from 6/14/43, to 3/4/44. His curriculum was shown as Foreign Area and Language (Russian and German). He also attended the Military Intelligence Training Center at Camp Ritchie, Maryland, during March, 1944 to July, 1944, for courses in Photo Interpretation and Intelligence.

NY

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He was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, World War II Victor Medal, American Theater Service Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Theater Service Medal and the Philippine Liberation Ribbon. There is no record of disciplinary actions, nervous or mental disorders.

From the information set forth in referenced letter and WFO report dated 1/31/62, subject appears to be an individual doing legitimate business or attempting to do business with Communist countries. In consideration of the subject's background, interests and employment, he does not appear to be a good DESECO prospect and this case is being closed.

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AVAKIAN, GEORGE

2/62

[redacted]

I

dcb: 3/15/19, USSR

AVAKIAN, GEORGE

2/65

[redacted]

I

AVAKIAN, GEORGE

6/67

[redacted]

I

Tele. # 684-0831

AVAKIAN, GEORGE (PH)

6/67.

[redacted]

¹/₆₇

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I

AVAKIAN, GEORGE MESROP

10/67

[redacted]

aka of George Avakian

I

AVAKIAN, GOURGEN

10/67

[redacted]

aka of George Avakian

I

p2-

File—Serial Charge Out

FD-5 (Rev. 6-17-70)

REC-10: 1970 OF-400-586

b3

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File

Class.

Case No.

Last Serial

Date

☐

Pending

☐

Closed

Serial No.

Description of Serial

Date

Charged

22

my little son

8/13/71

22.

JD / G.

8/13/71

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Transferred per JD 7/21

Employee

RECHARGE

Date

To

From

Initials of Clerk

Date

JD

Transferred per JD

Date Charged

Employee

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 08-16-2013 BY

ADG

Location

transfer sheet

File—Serial Charge Out

FD-5 (Rev. 6-17-70)

★ GPO : 1970 OF-406

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File

Date

7/21/71

Class.

Case No.

Last Serial

☐

Pending

☐

Closed

Serial No.

Description of Serial

Date

Charged

26 *WFO letter from 9/20/71*

transferred for

7/21

Employee

RECHARGE

Date

To

From

Initials of Clerk

Date

transfer sheet

Date Charged

Employee

Location

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 08-15-2019 BY

b6

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ADG

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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TO : SAC, New York [REDACTED]

FROM : ☒ Director, FBI [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: GEORGE AVAKIAN, aka
[REDACTED]

DATE: 11/8/71

ReNYlet 10/27/71.

Bureau authority is granted to interview captioned subject to determine the extent of his contacts with the Soviets and assess his informant potential. Subject should be approached on the basis outlined in your letter, that his frequent assistance to Soviet artists in this country may have resulted in his coming to the attention of Soviet intelligence. The Bureau's responsibilities in the internal security field should be explained to the subject and his cooperation solicited. //

Submit pertinent information developed in form suitable for dissemination. //



5010-108

[REDACTED]

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 8 1971	
FBI - NEW YORK	

[REDACTED] *Ch*

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Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

12/16/71

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI [REDACTED]
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK [REDACTED]
SUBJECT: GEORGE AVAKIAN, aka
[REDACTED]

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b7E

ReBulet, 11/8/71, which authorized interview of subject.

Subject interviewed on 12/13/71, under conditions set forth in reBulet. Subject cooperative and advised his present contacts with the Soviets were for the purpose of arranging documentary coverage of DUKE ELLINGTON's tour of the USSR. Soviets refused documentary coverage on the basis of cost and deal fell through. Subject subsequently contacted SMUN to arrange for a group of Soviets to attend the opening of DUKE ELLINGTON at the Rainbow Room, NYC, on 8/2/71. Subject attended that opening with the Soviets and later [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] to dinner at his apartment. Subject intends continuing contacts with [REDACTED] relative to the possibility [REDACTED]

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Subject also advised that his wife will tour the USSR as member of a string quartet in the future, date as yet undetermined.

Information furnished by subject re his earlier associations with the Soviets, and his background, is in agreement with information previously obtained and incorporated in his case file.

LHM in preparation re the above.

2- Bureau (RM)
(12) New York

CFK:nm
(3)

CHIEF CLERK
POST

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED

INDEXED

FILED

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York
January 5, 1972

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

George Avakian

George Avakian was interviewed by Special Agents (SAs) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on December 13, 1971, and he advised as follows:

Avakian has had contact with Soviet cultural authorities over an extended period of time because of his position as a self-employed impresario. He has also had contact with Soviet trade representatives in his travels to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) to conduct business on behalf of his firm, Avakian Brothers, Incorporated, an importer of oriental rugs located at 10 West 33rd Street, New York, New York.

In relation to his work as a free lance impresario, Avakian stated that he originally sought out contact with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Soviet Mission to the United Nations (SMUN), 136 East 67th Street, New York, New York, over four years ago. He dealt with [REDACTED] who has departed the United States, concerning his travel to attend the "Talin jazz festival", held in Estonia in 1967. At that time he accompanied a musical group which performed at that festival after encountering considerable difficulty. He had earlier travelled to the USSR to make arrangements for other musical groups to tour the USSR on an exchange basis.

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Concerning his most recent contacts with Soviets attached to the SMUN, Avakian advised that he had learned that Duke Ellington and his band were to tour the USSR, through personal acquaintances [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Prior to Ellington's departure for the USSR, Avakian attempted to arrange for documentary coverage of Ellington's tour. Soviet representatives objected to such coverage on the basis of cost and Avakian's plan was discarded.

b7E

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED

INDEXED

FILED

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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31

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

George Avakian

Avakian stated that after the plans for the documentary were discarded he learned that Duke Ellington was opening at The Rainbow Room, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, New York. Since he is a personal friend of Ellington's, Avakian was able to obtain accommodations for the opening of that engagement and personally telephoned to the SMUN in order to invite [] to the opening. That call was placed in late July, 1971, and Avakian requested to speak with the "press officer" in order to extend the invitation. Avakian had not had any previous contact with [] [] with whom he was connected at that time. Avakian made known his identity to [] as well as the purpose for his call. He was then placed in contact with [] [] for the USSR. Avakian said he has subsequently had several contacts with [] both personal and telephonic.

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Avakian stated that in response to his invitation, [] attended the opening at The Rainbow Room on the evening of Monday, August 2, 1971, which he also attended:



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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

George Avakian



b6
b7C

Avakian further advised that [redacted]
had been described to him as [redacted]
[redacted] to the
U.N.

Avakian stated that though he attended the opening with [redacted] he remembered only [redacted] to any great degree since he discoursed at length with him during the evening. They discussed the fact that Avakian had been born in the USSR and that both he [redacted] backgrounds. Avakian told [redacted] that his father had been a medical doctor and had maintained an office in the city of Tbilisi on the street now known as Lenin Street. [redacted] asked Avakian to describe as best he could the area immediately adjacent to his father's former office and after initiating the description, [redacted] completed Avakian's description accurately, to Avakian's surprise. For the remainder of the evening they conversed relative to Tbilisi and the USSR. Avakian noted that [redacted] had told him that he, [redacted] had been born in [redacted]

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Avakian characterized [redacted] as a pleasant and typical Russian woman of [redacted]. He was unable to characterize [redacted] since he had not really associated with them during the evening. Avakian stated that he had spoken perfunctorily with [redacted] during the evening and plans to contact him again concerning the possibility of arranging exchanges in the cultural field. He also intends to invite [redacted] to dinner at his apartment in the near future since he does enjoy [redacted] company. Avakian advised that [redacted] had dinner at his home in the recent past, but that nothing of consequence had transpired other than that they had spent a pleasant evening together with their wives.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

George Avakian

Avakian recalled the identity of [redacted] with whom he has had dealings in the past. [redacted] who is employed as [redacted] Agency. He described [redacted] as tactful, charming, and well enough versed in the English language that he is able to successfully tell jokes in that language, a practice generally avoided by [redacted].

b6
b7C

At the conclusion of the interview, Avakian advised that his wife will travel to the USSR as a member of a string quartet in the not too distant future. He stated that the arrangements for the quartet's tour of the USSR have not been completed as yet, but that his wife will accompany the quartet as their cellist.

During the lengthy period of time he has been in contact with the Soviets, both in the U.S. and the USSR, nothing has transpired which would make Avakian suspicious of the Soviet's motives in dealing with him. He added that no unusual requests have been made of him and he has been treated as a respected member of the American musical community.

b6
b7C
b7D

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